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fluences of climate upon man. He supported Hippocrates in the belief that weather changes are important in developing physical and mental well-being. He pointed out that nomads are forced to their peculiar mode of life by lack of food and by unfavourable conditions of climate. Mountain peoples are believed to be stronger than lowland peoples, because of the harsher climate in which the former live. The inhabitants of the colder northern latitudes are used to a severe climate. The dweller in the south is soft, and if he goes into a more severe climate cannot endure.

These suggestions concerning Strabo's contributions to climatology will make it plain that we owe much to this ancient writer. Dr. Rid has done well to emphasize the importance of Strabo's scientific work along these lines.

R. DE C. W.

Geografía de la Provincia de Córdoba, por Manuel E. Río y Luis Achával, Ingenieros Civiles, Catedráticos en la Universidad Nacional de Córdoba. (*Escrita por Encargo del Excmo. Gobierno de la Provincia.*) Publicación Oficial. 2 vols. 8°, and Atlas, in folio. Buenos Aires: Compañía Sudamericana de Billetes de Banco. 1904.

Official publications emanating from the Governments of South-American Republics are, usually, very presentable books. The Argentine especially distinguishes itself, not only in the make-up of its scientific books, but also in the intrinsic value of their contents. The one before us is a fair specimen of official bookmaking in the great Republic of the Pampas and La Plata. Two portly volumes and an atlas in folio, dedicated to the geography of the Province of Córdoba exclusively, are certainly well worthy of careful comment. In them, the term "Geography" is taken in its widest sense, as embracing descriptions and statistics of as good as everything connected with the territory mentioned.

The authors, two civil engineers of high standing in their country, have spared no pains in the accumulation and co-ordination of their abundant material. A respectable portion of that material appears to have been gathered (though the fact is not mentioned) by the authors themselves, and the selection made of Messrs. Río and Achával for the task of preparing this "Geography of Córdoba" is fully justified by the result. It was no small task to do justice to the instructions received from the Executive of the Province, covering as they did, broadly and in the minutest detail, all the subjects of inquiry.

A bibliography, apparently quite complete as far as modern sources are concerned, precedes the text proper. It might, however, have been advisable to include some indications concerning older sources, especially such as are still in manuscript. While we cannot expect to find, in the writings of past centuries, many systematic data, still they often contain allusions which even modern science may advantageously consider. At any rate, where ethnography is included in the material, early history should find its place with proper references to the sources whence knowledge about earliest conditions may be derived. Among the (modern) investigators of the natural history of Córdoba, to which the report alludes, the Germans occupy perhaps the first place, in numbers and in the importance of their achievements; still, there is quite a respectable array of collaborators from the Argentine, as well as from other countries. Full reference seems to have been made to every author, and due credit given to his work.

The descriptions of the physical aspect of the Province are attractive and—what considerably enhances their value—free from the exuberance sometimes dis-

agreeably conspicuous in Spanish-American literature. The few and rare poetic efforts become, through their thorough justification and adaptation to truth, the more pleasing and refreshing.

Situated nearly in the centre of the Argentine Republic, the Province of Córdoba lies between lat. south $29^{\circ} 30'$ and 35° , and long. W. of Greenwich $61^{\circ} 47'$ and $65^{\circ} 47'$. It covers an area of about 175,000 square kilometers (67,570 sq. m.), traversed by several mountain-chains, the highest points of which rise to nearly 2,900 meters (9,500 feet) above the sea. A long list of hypsometric data is given, every one being referred to its source with scrupulous care, which, of course, renders it of solid value. Much attention, also, is shown to the hydrography of the province, in regard to which the most minute care is displayed. The climate of Córdoba having been the object of thorough study on the part of Dr. O. Doering, his work is acknowledged by the authors as their principal basis, whereas the observation tables are taken from the records of the Argentine Meteorologic Office. Many of the tables extend over a period of twenty-five years, and they embrace almost every climatologic feature, ozone included. The distribution of rainfall, as shown by the tables, is interesting through its variety.

It is with some surprise that we note, in a work of such extent and detail, the absence of information on palæontology, whereas the geology of the Province is the subject of reasonable attention. The list of minerals is not only long, but accompanied by observations tending to initiate laymen into a general notion of the minerals enumerated and their value for technical purposes, so far as known. This section of the book is of value to the prospector and miner.

A careful review of the flora and fauna bears out the promise of the bibliographic introduction. In that introduction we already find that, out of seven hundred species of birds known to exist in the whole Republic, 256 are found in the territory of Córdoba. From the section on insects we gather that about a thousand species of Hymenoptera have, so far, been observed in the Province, among which Formicidæ appear with ninety and Mutillidæ with a hundred. Nearly the same number of species of Coleoptera have been recorded, among them 350 Cerambycidæ, Chrysomelæ, and Lamellicornia.* Butterflies, however, are rather poorly represented, both in species and individuals, there being hardly more than one-third of the number of kinds of the preceding orders. An interesting observation is that of the comparatively large number of terrestrial molluscs, mostly inhabiting the mountainous districts of the Province, while one species (*Succinea coarctata*) dwells in the alkaline regions. The Lamellibranchiæ seem to be represented by a single species, which forms pearls of irregular shape, though of fine lustre, in its cavity.

Political Geography occupies fully one-fifth of the first and two-thirds of the second volume. While the Province is, in size, the second of the sixteen that compose the Argentine Republic, it still embraces but one-sixteenth of the total area of the land. Not quite three persons correspond to every square kilometer. Of the population (about 450,000) but very few are direct remainders of the Indian tribes that held the soil originally. The natives disappeared rapidly, not in consequence of excesses committed by the Spanish colonists, but in the natural course of contact, and on account of their indolence and physical weakness. Only the ferocious Puelches maintain themselves in

* The text has Gamellicorniaæ.

the extreme south of the Province and were in the last decades of the nineteenth century still a threat to the peaceable settlements of agriculturists. At present the foreign population represents more than twelve per cent of all the inhabitants, whereas the proportion of foreigners to natives, in the Argentine, is one to four. Italians constitute the greatest number of immigrants, then follow the Spaniards and the French. Numerous statistical tables present various phases in touch with the conditions of the people. The lengthy sections devoted to Agriculture, Government, and Laws are valuable to the visitor and immigrant who wishes to inform himself on the chances and drawbacks presented to him in the Argentine.

The report finally goes over into the geographic description of the Departments into which the Province of Córdoba is subdivided. Much of this being, of necessity, a repetition of the preceding, we forbear entering into details about it. On the whole, the two volumes are a valuable addition to geographic and statistical knowledge, and important to the traveller as well as to intending colonists. While there is, of course, an easily discernible tendency not to diminish the beauty and resources of the Province, it seems to be wholly justified. A handsome Atlas in folio accompanies the very well-printed text. Among South American official publications this one by Messrs. Rio and Achával will always hold a worthy place.

A. F. B.

Ueber die Küstenbildungen des Bottnischen Meerbusens zwischen Tornio und Kokkola. Akademische Abhandlung von I. Leiviskä. Helsingfors, 1905. K. Malmström, Publisher. 225 pp. Two maps.

The coast of Finland between Tornio and Kokkola—viz., between 64° and 66° N.—differs from other parts of the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia through the lack, or very limited number, of islands. While a general family resemblance is evident in all parts of the region described, its features present some perfectly distinct types. Sometimes a great number of them are crowded together on a limited area, sometimes the character of the coast remains unchanged for many miles. Upon the basis of a minute study of every part of the coast from Kokkola to Tornio, the author gives a classification and explanation of the various types. Examining the larger or smaller number of bays, necks, and islands, their shapes, the steepness of the coast, the material of which it is built, etc., the author distinguishes five principal types—meadow, pasture, sandy, stony, and rocky coasts.

1. Meadow coasts occur on sandy and clayey shores. The sand meadows occur (a) in open bays, near the mouths of rivers; there the sand is purest, and a gentle surf arranges it in long sandbanks and lagoons, or swamps, alternately; (b) in sheltered bays, on gently rising shores, on which the meadow generally passes into groves and forests. Here the sand is freely mixed with clay. Clay meadows, on the other hand, occur in shallow water where there are no rivers, and the coast is rich in low islands separated by shallow channels. It is on these meadows that are found the so-called "barren polygons"—a formation due to the cracking of the clay in dry weather and the rising to the surface, along the cracks, of salt water which evaporates and leaves salt crystals all along the cracks, thus covering the soil with a network of white polygons.

Substages of the meadow coast are the shrub coasts, narrow strips of meadow covered with shrubs, and the bluff coast, due to erosion.

2. The pasture coasts are distinguished from the first type by the occurrence